

Muskmelon Cultivar Evaluation Trials for 1979

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Muskmelon cultivars were evaluated during the summer of 1979 at the Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center Vegetable Crops Branch near Fremont. Ten lines and hybrids were compared in replicated plots. Six lines and hybrids were observed in non-replicated plots.

Cultural Information

Plant Growing: Seeds were sown in 2 1/4 in. sq. peat pots on May 2. Pots contained a mixture of 1/3 each, soil, peat and sand. Two plants were grown per pot. Plants were field set by hand on June 6.

Field Culture: 600 lb/A of 6-24-24 was broadcast and worked in prior to planting. Also, 150 lb/A of 6-24-12 was drilled in the row prior to laying the plastic. Four-ft. wide, 1.5 mil black plastic mulch was laid on 6 ft. centers immediately before transplanting. Rows were 30 ft. long and the 2-plant pots were spaced 30 in. apart. There were 3 replications of each cultivar in the replicated trial. One-half pint of starter solution of 6 lb/100 gal. of 11-48-0 was added to each hill at planting. Vegiben 2E was sprayed between the plastic at 2 lb/A for weed control. All other cultural practices during the season were according to standard recommendations and no serious insect, disease or weed problems occurred.

<u>Rainfall:</u>	June 6	2.54 in.
	July	3.86 in.
	August	4.83 in.
	to September 7	0.00 in.

Harvest: Started August 13 and continued through September 7.

Results and Discussion

Yield, grade and fruit size results for the first 10 days after the start of the harvesting of the earliest cultivar and the total season's harvest from the replicated trial are summarized in Table 1. There are some obvious differences between cultivars and lines.

Yield, grade and fruit size results from the observational trials are summarized in Table 2.

Some of the cultivars and lines do not have deep ribbing or sutures, or heavy netting and growers should consider their market requirements when selecting some of these lines or cultivars. Occasionally, a cultivar or line may have some other exceptional attribute such as earliness, very high quality, very good holding or shipping ability or resistant to certain diseases that would make it highly desirable for certain locations or uses.

SEED SOURCE

Cultivar or Line	Lot Number	Source
Ball 1776 Hybrid	420561	Geo. J. Ball, Inc., West Chicago, IL
Burpee Hybrid	R751319H	W. Atlee Burpee Co., Philadelphia, PA
Dixie Jumbo Hybrid	0471001	Peto Seed Co., Saticoy, CA
Earlidew	0561003	Stokes Seed, Inc., Buffalo, NY
Earlisweet Hybrid	190A	Stokes Seed, Inc., Buffalo, NY
Earlisweet Hybrid	054000	Peto Seed Co., Saticoy, CA
Early Dawn Hybrid	559-164	Joseph Harris Co., Rochester, NY
Summet Hybrid	WTK 102	Asgrow Seed Co., Orange, CN
NCX-756 Hybrid	3820	Northrup, King & Co., Minneapolis, MN
NCX-758 Hybrid	3821	Northrup, King & Co., Minneapolis, MN
NCX-759	3875	Northrup, King & Co., Minneapolis, MN
XPH-771	WFL 105	Asgrow Seed Co., Orange, CN
Exp-1211	41060-20105	Northrup, King & Co., Minneapolis, MN
G-25VB	77662-6017	Joseph Harris Co., Rochester, NY
GQM9	6048	Joseph Harris Co., Rochester, NY
PCNVB	6038B	Joseph Harris Co., Rochester, NY

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TABLE 1. Harvest date, yield, grade and fruit size of muskmelon, replicated trial, Fremont - 1979.

Cultivar	First harvest date	Yield for period Aug. 13-23			Season Total Yield		
		Marketable Fruit			Marketable Fruit		
		cwt/ A	size (lb)	% culls	cwt/ A	size (lb)	% culls
Ball "1776"	8-17	65.4	3.7	4.8	409.6	4.3	7.8
NCX-756	8-21	24.0	2.5	42.7	266.6	3.3	23.6
NCX-759	8-17	37.2	4.4	16.0	46.2	5.2	77.0
Earlisweet (Stokes)	8-13	291.0	2.0	17.7	360.4	2.2	18.4
Earlidew	8-23	98.2	5.1	27.9	98.2	5.1	27.9
Burpee Hybrid	8-17	133.8	3.8	3.5	403.2	4.3	16.1
Summet	8-17	96.8	3.2	2.3	386.6	3.4	8.7
Dixie Jumbo	8-21	12.4	3.1	0	380.2	3.5	27.7
G-25VB	8-21	32.6	5.4	0	380.0	5.3	22.9
Early Dawn	8-13	357.4	4.4	17.6	401.8	4.6	20.0
LSD .05		76.0	---	----	146.2	---	----

TABLE 2. Harvest date, yield, grade and fruit size of muskmelon observation trials, Fremont - 1979.

Cultivar	First harvest date	Yield for period Aug. 13-23			Season Total Yield		
		Marketable Fruit			Marketable Fruit		
		cwt/ A	size (lb)	% culls	cwt/ A	size (lb)	% culls
NCX-758	8-17	44.5	3.7	34.3	326.4	3.1	27.5
XPH-771	8-21	53.9	3.2	0	296.9	3.3	15.7
Earlisweet (Peto)	8-13	296.6	2.0	21.8	366.6	2.0	20.4
GQM9	8-15	379.4	4.7	0.7	487.1	4.8	6.8
PCNVB	8-13	255.5	7.5	8.5	693.1	7.2	19.7
Exp. 1211	8-23	10.6	4.4	0	127.5	4.4	65.0

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